

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
EXPANDED COMMITTEE ON THE FUTURE**

IAC Conference Room
100 N. Senate Avenue Room N505
Indianapolis, IN 46204
January 26, 2010, 1:00 p.m.

Dick Stifel, Chair
Ron Stratten, Facilitator

Notes

Dick Stifel, Chair of the IAC Committee on the Future, called for a special meeting of the COF, inviting the IAC Executive Committee and other participants, to begin discussions about the future of the Regional Arts Partnership program, in light of current and expected budget reductions from the State level. In preparation for this discussion, he asked IAC staff to project several scenarios describing various possible changes, and showing both positive and negative aspects of each. He also invited former IAC Chair Ron Stratten to facilitate the discussion; Mr. Stratten is serving as facilitator of the 2010 Strategic Planning process.

Committee on the Future members present: Dick Stifel, Suzie Rentschler, Karen Ellerbrook, Jon Ford, Sue Burk, Ron Stratten.

Committee on the Future members via teleconference: Gil Cárdenas, Earl Williams, Judy Hess

Executive Committee members present: Jeanne Mirro

Invited Discussionists: Eric Rogers, Jim Bodenmiller, Terry Whitt Bailey, John Cain

IAC Staff present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Dennis Hardin, Bobbie Garver, Susan Britsch, Kristina Davis

Mr. Stifel called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves. He made remarks about the purpose of the meeting, saying that the discussions would be open and that no votes would be taken during the meeting. He also asked all participants to hold the discussions in confidence until the information can be conveyed to a larger meeting of the Regional Arts Partners at the IAC retreat on February 3 – 4. He then turned the meeting over to Mr. Stratten.

Mr. Stratten emphasized the importance of viewing the IAC-RAP relationship from a state-wide perspective, and to that end he presented a satellite image of the state of Indiana, showing only the terrain: no visible cities, counties, or highways. He then asked Mr. Ricci to review the developments in the state budget for IAC. Mr. Ricci reminded the group that the FY2010 IAC state budget is reduced by about 28% from the FY2009 budget, or about 1.2 million dollars. In its June 2009 Quarterly Business Meeting, the Commission reviewed anticipated budget cuts and approved a recommendation to re-evaluate the Regional Arts Partner system if the budget cuts

reached more than 1 million dollars, the point at which the administrative costs of maintaining the system begin to outweigh the benefit of reduced public funds channeling through the Partners to the field. So, this meeting of the Committee on the Future is the first step in that re-evaluation.

Mr. Stratten then asked Mr. Ricci to provide an overview of six prepared scenarios, each describing a variation of how the RAP program might be changed to allow the maximum amount of funds to be distributed to the citizens of Indiana. Mr. Ricci presented a series of Powerpoint slides, first showing projected budget numbers and then the positive and negative aspects of each scenario. The budget numbers were based on the assumption that the FY2011 budget will be the same as the FY2010 budget, and Mr. Ricci acknowledged the likelihood of larger reductions in the FY2011 state budget. The six scenarios, briefly described, are:

1. Regional Grants External, Services Centralized Internally.
2. Grants Centralized Internally, Services Remain External.
- 3A and 3B: Hybrid Systems with Fewer Partners
4. Entirely Centralized, No Regional Partners
5. Status Quo

Mr. Ricci then presented hard copies (attached) showing each of the proposed scenarios. Mr. Stratten then opened discussions of each scenario in order. After these discussions, he asked if any scenarios could be eliminated from future discussions, or if any other proposed scenarios should be added to future discussions. An additional scenario was proposed, in which the IAC staff would be reduced and the resulting monies channeled to the Regional Arts Partners. This scenario was named 4A and will be included in the next discussions. The consensus among the discussionists was that no scenarios should be ruled out at this point.

Mr. Stratten then asked the group if the proposed scenarios could be prioritized. A discussion of the IAC mission followed, and the consensus was that the mission statement should be examined closely and interpreted for the current economic climate before the priority of any scenario could be determined.

Mr. Stifel thanked Mr. Stratten and all discussionists for their participation. The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.